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Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTIA 05407 051934Z

61
ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 AEC-11 DODE-00

DRC-01 FEA-02 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 RSC-01 /117 W
---------- 038939
P R 051906Z SEP 74
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 158
INFO IAEA VIENNA 61
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 5407

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, TECH, IAEA, AR, CI
SUBJECT: ARGENTINE SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT WITH IAEA

REFS: (A) IAEA VIENNA 7414; (B) STATE 191754

1. WE ESTIMATE GOC WILL BE PLACED IN DILEMMA AT BOARD MEETING. AS MATTER OF PRINCIPLE, IT WILL NOT WANT TO SEE SISTER LA COUNTRY FORCED TO ACCEPT CONSTRAINTS IMPOSED BY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. SOME MILITARY HERE PROBABLY REMEMBER CHILE'S PROBLEMS WITH IAEA IN 1973 CONCERNING CHILEAN MILITARY CONTROL OF NEW REACTOR.

2. ON OTHER HAND, GOC WILL CERTAINLY NOT WANT TO SEE UNRE-STRICTED NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT IN ARGENTINA. WHILE ARGENTINE/ CHILEAN RELATIONS ARE CURRENTLY CORDIAL, POLITICAL INSTABILITY IN ARGENTINA DOES WORRY GOC. MAVERICK NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT IN ARGENTINA WHICH EVEN HINTED AT WEAPONS CAPABILITY WOULD SCARE GOC AND PERHAPS FORCE IT TO CONSIDER TRYING TO FOLLOW SUIT.

3. ON BALANCE, WE EXPECT CHILE WOULD TRY TO REMAIN ON SIDELINES OF DEBATE, PERHAPS URGING MODERATION ON BOTH SIDES BUT TAKING NO LEAD FOR OR AGAINST ARGENTINA. IF USG DECIDED THIS WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 SANTIA 05407 051934Z

ISSUE OF HIGH PRIORITY, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO EXERT CONSTRUCTIVE

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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INFLUENCE HERE TOWARD GOC SUPPORT FOR U.S. POSITION.
POPPER

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NNN

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EO Systematic Review
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